

## AMENDMENT BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

There is no doubt that we have made progress across the County on preventing and ending homelessness. From the onset of our focus on this pervasive issue, I believe that this Board set policies that truly laid the groundwork for what this County has achieved thus far and for our ongoing work on this.

We are now at a critical juncture in our work against homelessness. Many of the programs we have supported with one-time funding are demonstrating success. Yet we are also facing unparalleled budgetary challenges to this County. Any question of funding – whether it is redirection of funds or additional funds – needs to be considered in the context of our overall fiscal priorities.

I would also like to raise the issue again of cost avoidance. Last year, I entered a motion directing the County to develop a clear methodology for determining how excessive costs to the County for providing health care and other social services to the homeless via the jails and emergency rooms could be avoided by investments in these

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programs. I would like this critical aspect of our work on this issue be included in the report back and considered in the discussions about funding for homeless programs.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Executive Officer specifically address the issue of cost avoidance in his report back to the Board.